

# POINT THREE

September 1972

## BELFAST BOYS' HOLIDAY IN WALES

A party of 20 boys, Protestant and Catholic, from the troubled city of Belfast, enjoyed a week's holiday at the Toc H Children's Camp at Rhyl, North Wales, in August. The party, led by youth club leader Frank Hood, travelled overnight to Liverpool, where they were entertained to breakfast at the Toc H Mark, Gladstone House. As guests of Toc H they were able to relax for a week from the tensions of life in Northern Ireland. Mrs Eileen Campbell, *Point Three's* Northern Ireland correspondent,

who acted as hostess and cook for the week, writes: 'We trust that this venture has brought these boys together, not only for one week, but for a lifetime. The only solution to Ireland's problem is that we have got to learn to live together in love and joy and peace, checking all bitterness, disowning discouragement and leaping with joy to tasks for others. Belfast Toc H members are grateful to fellow members in England and Wales for making this holiday for our boys a possibility.'

## Jersey signposts toilets for disabled

In the February issue of *Point Three* we reproduced the special symbol which has been approved for signposting toilets and other public buildings whose access is suitable for the disabled. St Helier branch, Jersey, at once decided to raise the matter with the authorities and, reports branch secretary Frank Leighton, 'our efforts have been successful'. The branch has received a letter from the Department

of Public Buildings and Works stating that the symbol will be displayed on all the island's public toilets that are suitable for use by the disabled. There are, however, no grounds for complacency since the letter adds that public toilets are 'at present the only buildings under the control of the Committee in which special arrangements are available'.

## Sale of books raises funds in holiday town

Looe branch on Cornwall's south coast raises funds for its many activities by the sale of books throughout the holiday season. The books are attractively displayed on purpose built stands in the branch room, which is strategically placed at the town end of an enormous car park. Many thousands of visitors stream past the doors on a busy day.

Among the activities financed by this enterprise are parties for old people, the distribution of Christmas gifts to the sick and elderly and of welfare parcels throughout the year, the maintenance of a fleet of wheelchairs available on loan to residents and holiday visitors and the running of a chiropody service and a youth club.

Funds are also raised by means of an annual three day Flower Show, which is, says *Point Three* correspondent Ray Middleton, 'very professionally staged'. Over 100 advertisers pay for space in the programmes and the Show normally raises some £200.

Some of those who attended the film making weekend at Alison House. Seated at left is Douglas Lowndes, who produced the film 'Many Things' for Toc H and led the weekend. He was impressed by the degree of expertise and the variety of equipment available within the Movement. Those present agreed to make films of Toc H in their own localities and it is hoped to combine some of these local films into a new production for showing nationally. A further weekend is planned for next month.

Photo: Richard Coates





## A chance to travel

Toc H members have a chance of spending three months abroad next year with the aid of grants from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. Among the categories of people to whom Fellowships will be awarded in 1973 are those involved in voluntary and charitable work.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, established as a result of the National Appeal in 1965, is a unique form of memorial. It enables men and women who might never otherwise have the chance, to travel

abroad, to widen their knowledge not only in their own field of activity, but also of other people's lives and work in different parts of the world, and as a result of the experience they gain, to contribute more effectively to their profession, community and country.

There are no age limits; academic or professional qualifications are not needed, but candidates must be citizens of the United Kingdom, and must be able to convince the selectors of the worth of their project and that they have the ability and initiative to make full use of the Fellowship both while they are abroad and when they come back.

The grants cover all Fellowship expenses, the average length of which is three months. Interviews will be held in London in January 1973 and successful candidates will be expected to start their travels during that year.

To apply, send your name and address only on a postcard *in September* to The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 10 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W1N 7PD. You will receive an explanatory leaflet and a form to complete which must be returned before November 6, 1972.

### MIND YOUR...

If Cleethorpes branch want another name for their 'Mile of Pennies' (as reported in July), what about 'P's in Queues'?

*John Callf*

Three members of the Harehill Gang relax after their performance for 150 members of the Barnet and Islington branches of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, who enjoyed a day away from London as guests of Weybridge, Surrey, branch. In addition to the entertainment the branch arranged lunch and tea for their guests as well as the chance just to sit and watch the river flow past. Photo: H. Collins



Corsham, Wilts, women's branch recently entertained boys from nearby Eagle House approved school. Members of Corsham and Chippenham men's branches were also invited and took part in cricket and football matches against the boys during the afternoon. In the evening there was supper, followed by a film show. Photo: Reg Coates





## Outing for Hackney's disabled

Bourne End, Bucks, branch were hosts to 40 members of the Toc H Disabled Club in Hackney, East London. This is just one example of ways in which branches in rural areas are seeking to play a part in Toc H inner city projects. During the afternoon entertainment was provided by the Bourne End Operatic Society, who later accepted an invitation to pay a visit to Prideaux House, Hackney, to take part in the International Folk Festival in July.

## Using an odd corner

**Ray Middleton,**

*Point Three correspondent*

Some years ago Burraton branch in Cornwall built their own room, which they share with the women's branch, on an odd shaped plot of ground given to them by the Borough Council. For years the area surrounding the room remained a rather untidy waste. Then an idea occurred to John Smith, a member, who put it to the two branches. Following two years of hard graft, scrounging, planning and persistence, an attractively terraced, small garden with a lawn, flower beds and a paved area with a nice wooden seat for use of the elderly, was opened in June. Burraton was proud of its room before, but it can be doubly proud now.

## Growth of Over 70's Club

The Over 70's Club started by Ecclesfield women's branch in Yorkshire two years ago at a meeting attended by 37 people now has a membership of 110, reports *Point Three* correspondent Alice Hobson. The club meets twice monthly in the town's infant school. The programme, which is planned by the club's members, includes films, talks, concert parties, outings to the country and visits to the pantomime. It was at one of the pantomimes that a member had the lucky programme and won a holiday for two.

## In brief...

● Jack Kirby, a member of Rawthorpe, Yorks, branch, has joined the headquarters staff as accountant. And Charles Bland has also joined the accounts department. He will have responsibility for salaries and wages.

● Mrs Con Brown of Ferndown, Dorset, branch has been appointed warden of Alison House. She and her husband, Percy, moved in in July.

● June was quite a month for Dakon-in-Furness, Lancs, member Robert Domony. He celebrated his 91st birthday and received the MBE in the Birthday Honours. Congratulations also to Brian Longbottom (Redditch branch), who received the OBE.

● Stirling branch in Scotland has raised £920 for the Scottish War Blinded during the past three years.

● Among the volunteer drivers of the Hythe, Kent, branch coach, which is used to give outings to the elderly and the handicapped, are 17 East Kent Road Car Company bus drivers. One of them commented: 'It is so rewarding when you see the old people getting out and enjoying themselves.'

● Every branch should have a parallel Toc H youth unit. That was the conclusion reached by the Fairfield District in South London and the Trent Valley District in Nottinghamshire when they met for a weekend at Dor Knap on the theme 'The Changing World'.

● Fair Oak branch in Hampshire organised an outing for old people to 'Bird World' in Farnham. And Northampton's annual outing for the elderly consisted of a procession of 26 cars, led by the Mayor.

● Tubby was a welcome guest at the Oxford & Thames Valley Area Festival, where the main speaker was general secretary Gilbert Francis.

● Yiewsley & West Drayton branch in Middlesex enjoyed perfect weather for its annual garden party for members of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

● A wrought iron stand for flowers for use in the Toc H chapel in Holy Trinity Church, Leeds, has been presented by two local members in memory of their parents.

● The Shavington Toc H soccer team have been awarded a good conduct cup by the Crewe and District Referees Society for the second time in three years. The cup is awarded annually to encourage good sportsmanship and factors taken into consideration include the behaviour of players and spectators and the club's administration and general approach to the game.

● 150 members in Devon attended a farewell party for Alice Welford on her retirement from the Regional staff. They presented Alice with a travelling rug and bouquets of flowers in token of their continuing affection for her.



## Segovia to star in Mill Hill concert

One of the highlights of this year's season of celebrity concerts organised by Mill Hill branch in North London will be the visit of the world famous Spanish guitarist Segovia on October 14. Other internationally known performers include Daniel Barenboim, who will give two concerts, on October 8 and March 17; Janet Baker with Raymond Leppard and the English Chamber Orchestra, on December 9; and the Amadeus String Quartet, regular performers in this series of concerts, on June 10. These celebrity concerts, which have become such a popular feature of life in North London, raise money for the branch's film unit, which costs over £600 a year.

## Project girl's date in Munich

From participation in a Toc H project in August to participation in the Olympic Games at Munich in September. That was the story of the summer for Susan Wrigglesworth, at 17 the youngest member of Britain's fencing team. Susan, a pupil at Croydon High School, started fencing only five years ago; and last year she came fifth in the world youth championships at Chicago. The project she took part in was at Cheyne Hospital in South London. Every Tuesday throughout August members of the project group, which included Toc H members, Volunteers and people new to the Movement, all from the Croydon area, took handicapped children from the hospital on outings.

## London Festival in 1975

In response to the results of the Questionnaire sent to branches in May the Central Executive has decided that there should be a celebration in London in May 1975 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Toc H and that encouragement should also be given to the holding of Regional Festivals during the year. The London weekend will include a Saturday evening celebration at the Royal Albert Hall and will end with a Eucharist service at All Hallows on the Sunday.

Out of approximately 1,000 branches circulated 614 completed the Questionnaire. Those who replied voted 361-175 in favour of a national celebration in London and there was a substantial majority in favour of a date in May rather than in October. 353 branches felt that the celebration should be held over a weekend as against 242 who felt that there should be activities on the Saturday only. A considerable number of branches suggest that some part of the Saturday evening should be of an historical nature, looking back over the Movement's 60 years.



Members of Sheringham, Norfolk, women's branch attend the presentation of a clock to Sembal House, a 'halfway' hostel for men and women discharged from mental homes, which is run by the Norfolk and Norwich Association for Mental Health. The clock was bought from the proceeds of the raffle of a rug beautifully crocheted by the daughter of a member of the branch. The branch has taken an active interest in the development of Sembal House. The House is at present rented from Dr Barnado's but the Association for Mental Health is over half way to its target of £35,000 to purchase the freehold. Sembal House consists of three modern houses to accommodate 30 people at any one time.

Below: The Hon Angus Ogilvy, Vice-Patron of Toc H, discusses plans for the expansion of the Movement, during a recent visit to members in Edinburgh. Photo: Wilson S Groat

